

GOVERNOR DOUGLAS A. DUCEY

STATE OF ARIZONA

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, on December 7, 1941, the Japanese Empire attacked Pearl Harbor and the United States Congress declared war the following day; and

WHEREAS, the United States government called upon the Navajo Nation to support the military effort by recruiting and enlisting more than four hundred Navajo men to serve in standards communications units; and

WHEREAS, these patriots became known as "Navajo Code Talkers" who were used in every major operation involving the United States Marines in the Pacific Ocean theatre; and

WHEREAS, Navajo Code Talkers gave the United States Marines a critical advantage throughout the war, notably the victory at Iwo Jima where they successfully transmitted more than 800 messages without error; and

WHEREAS, the unbroken Navajo Code assisted in saving countless lives and hastened the end of World War II; and

WHEREAS, the State of Arizona stands to recognize all Navajo Code Talkers as honorable men who have performed an important service to the preservation of freedom and democracy;

WHEREAS, Navajo Code Talkers Day was established through a presidential proclamation by President Ronald Reagan on August 14, 1982;

WHEREAS, Arizona in 2014 passed legislation declaring every August 14 as Navajo Code Talkers Day in the state;

WHEREAS, Governor Doug Ducey in March 2021 signed legislation making National Navajo Code Talkers Day a legal state holiday every year on August 14.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of the State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim August 14, 2021, as

NAVAJO CODE TALKERS DAY

and urge residents to take time this day to reflect and appreciate the sacrifice these men made for the State of Arizona and the United States of America.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona

Douglas A. Ducey
GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this Twenty-Seventh day of July in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-One, and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Forty-Sixth.

ATTEST:

[Signature]

SECRETARY OF STATE